

Message from the London Amateur Radio Club



Promoting Amateur Radio in London
And surrounding area since 1920

March 6, 2011

L.A.R.C. Executive

President

Doug Elliott, VA3DAE

Vice-President

David Lambert, VE3KKG

Past President

Doug Tompkins, VE3IDT

Treasurer

Brian Bouckley, VA3ATB

Secretary

Ruth Dahl, VE3RBO

Director, Flea Market

Ann Rundle, VA3EOR

Director, Membership

John Visser, VA3MSV

Director

Mike Watts, VE3ACW

Non-Voting

Director, ARES & CANWARN

Brett Gilbank, VE3ZBG

Appointments

LARC Repeater Coordinator

Brad Seward, VE3NRJ

Repeater

Operator/Programmer

David Young, VE3EAY

Field Day Coordinator

Dave Lambert, VE3KKG

Webmaster

Doug Elliott, VA3DAE

Newsletter Editor

John Visser, VA3MSV

Auditors

Rob Hockin, VA3HO
William Clothier, VE3BCU

Next Meeting Topic

The next **LARC meeting** will be on **Thursday, March 10, 2011** at 7:30 PM. During the February meeting, **Mike Cook, VE3ZMC** will be discussing the history and current status of nuclear fusion power in a presentation entitled: **"Unlimited power: What are the prospects."**

RAC Bulletin 2011-004E - Request for Information, Interference from Plasma Television Sets.

According to members of the Niagara Peninsula Amateur Radio Club, noise and signals originating from Plasma Screen digital television set are causing considerable interference to their HF activities and have asked RAC for help. Complaints of this nature require specific and detailed information before RAC can consider taking this matter to Industry Canada. To gather this information, RAC invites its members that own a Plasma Screen television to report their experiences of interference from such products. Specifically, reports should describe the make and model of TV, a description of their HF station and antenna system and the exact nature of the interference (what bands, what sound etc). Remedies should also be tried and reported such as using ferrite chokes on power lines cords and signal cables if interference is detected. Amateurs with advanced instrumentation such as spectrum analyzers and calibrated antennas should measure signal intensity levels at given distances; these measurements will add credibility to our investigation. We also want to know from amateurs that can attest that operation of their own plasma TV causes no noticeable interference to their amateur radio operations. All digital domestic equipment, including Plasma and LCD television sets must comply with Industry Canada standard ICES 003 (interference causing equipment standard for digital equipment) to be marketed in Canada. Alternately, TV sets with tuners may be certified under Industry Canada BETS 7 standard. Please indicate in any report submitted that a label on the TV or notation in the manual indicates it is indeed certificated and compliant under current issues of ICES 003 and/or the BETS 7 standards.

Send reports to Norm Rashleigh, VE3LC, VP Industrial Liaison, ve3lc@rac.ca

Norm Rashleigh, VE3LC - VP Industrial Liaison - RAC

Next Meeting is Where and When?

Reminder: The next monthly L.A.R.C. meeting on March 10, 2011 at 7:30 pm

All meetings are normally located at St. Judes Anglican Church, 1537 Adelaide Street North at Fanshawe Park Road East in London, Ontario.

The meetings are **normally** held on the second Thursday of the month at 7:30 pm EST during the months of September to June.

Next Meeting will be April 14, 2011. This meeting topic still to be determined.

Area Repeaters

LARC Repeaters

London

VA3LON 147.060 + 114.8Hz

VE3MGI 145.390 - 114.8Hz

Sort Repeaters

London

VE3TTT 147.180 + 114.8Hz
Echolink Node 10741

VE3SUE 444.400 + 114.8 Hz
IRLP Node 2400

VE3TTT 442.200 + D-Star

Ipperwash

VE3TCB 146.940 - 114.8 Hz
Linked to VE3SUE

Grand Bend

VE3SRT 442.050 + 114.8 Hz
Linked to VE3SUE

Other Area Repeaters

London

VA3SIX 53.470 - 114.8 Hz

VE3OME 145.450 - 114.8 Hz
CANWARN

VA3FEZ 444.100 + 114.8 Hz

Grand Bend

VE3RGB 146.760 + 173.8 Hz

Stratfordville

VE3DPL 146.655 - 131.8 Hz

St. Thomas

VE3STR 147.330 + 114.8 Hz
Echolink Node: 72886

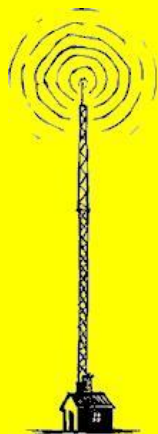
VE3STR 443.825 + 114.8 Hz
IRLP Node: 2482

Goderich

VE3OBC 146.910 - 123.0 Hz

Whitechurch

VE3WWD 443.075 + 123.0 Hz



If you have a repeater that should be listed here, please forward the information to John Visser, VA3MSV at va3msv@hotmail.com and I'll add it to the list.

Membership Certificates

The Club has created membership certificates for its current members. You can see your own certificate at the following link. <http://www.larc.ca/member-list.htm>

Simply click on your surname and it will bring up a PDF of your certificate suitable for printing.

Flaunt Your Face – Show Your Shack

In our hobby it's not always easy to put a face to all the fellow hams you talk to on the air. To help us all figure who's who, LARC invites its members to submit digital photos of yourself and/or your shack to be published on the membership page of our website. Purely voluntary of course, and if you prefer you can submit just one (depending on whether you think your face or your shack is more presentable).

How will it work? On the membership page, we'll attach your own picture where your first name appears, and the picture of your shack to your callsign. See the entry for Doug Elliott, VA3DAE for an example.

How do you submit your pictures?

Just email them to the LARC site webmaster address, which is: webmaster@larc.ca

Mutual Aid

Would you be willing to answer some questions if a fellow ham needed some advice? Got a problem you can't figure out? Want to try something new but need someone to show you the ropes? Check out our new **Mutual AID page** (<http://www.larc.ca/mutual-aid.html>), a new way to get people who are looking for assistance together with the folks who can help supply the answers. **Let us know** what you think of this new facility.

Membership Report

Currently the membership is at 118. As of the beginning of the 2010/2011 year we have gotten 18 new members to the club. Of the 18 Honorary Members brought in from the L.S.R.C., 3 have paid for the current 2010/2011 year and unfortunately 1 became a Silent Key.

Nets



Daily

Trans Provincial Net

7.055 MHz 7:00 am – 5:00 pm

London Senior's Net

146.400 MHz 7:00 pm – 7:30 pm

Sunday

Swap Net

7.055 MHz LSB 12:00 pm

ARES Ontario Net

7.153 MHz 1:00 pm

7.055 MHz 3:00 pm

3.742 MHz 7:15 pm

IRLP Reflector 9005 8:00 pm

Monday

LARC 2m Net

147.060 MHz + 8:00 pm

Wednesday

ARES Net

145.450 + VE3OME 7:30 pm

ARES Ontario Net

IRLP Reflector 9005 8:00 pm

Thursday

PROCOMM Net

147.180 + VE3TTT 8:00 pm

444.400 + VE3SUE 8:00 pm

Friday

Tech Net

147.180 + VE3TTT 8:00 pm

444.400 + VE3SUE 8:00 pm

Saturday

VE3TTT 2m Net

147.180 + VE3TTT 7:30 pm

444.400 + VE3SUE 7:30 pm

146.940 - VE3TCB 7:30 pm

442.050 + VE3SRT 7:30 pm

If you have a Net that should be listed here, please forward the information to John Visser, VA3MSV at va3msv@hotmail.com and I'll add it to the list.

2010/2011 L.A.R.C. Executive Elections

It is that time of year again for us to think about the lineup for the club's executive members for 2010-2011.

Every May we decide who will be responsible for the handling of the money, physical resources, and determining the future direction of the club.

The club's executive requires at least 7 members each year and if you are interested, we request that you make yourself available one night per month to go over club business.

Some of us have been on the executive for several years and enjoy the experience.

We have some simple rules

1. Any current member of the club can request to be a member of the club's executive and added to the ballot.
2. Only members in good standing can vote (must be a paid member)
3. We must have a quorum (at least 25 members in good standing) in order to hold a valid election.

Some of the activities that require planning, coordination or at least some monthly discussions: Monthly meeting topics, fund raising, flea market, field day, repeaters & other equipment, extra activities.

We currently meet the 4th Thursday of the month from 7:30 pm to about 9:00 pm. All club members are invited to attend any executive meeting. If you have some interest but are unsure, and want to come and see what we do, just check with one of the executive as to where we are meeting.

The next page is a snip from the club's by-laws that specifically deal with the election process.

Upcoming Events

Sat., Mar. 26, 2011

[HamEx 2011](#) - Peel Amateur Radio Club and Mississauga Amateur Radio Club

Located at Brampton Fall Fairgrounds, 12942 Heart Lake Road, Brampton, Ontario

Sat., Apr. 16, 2011

[2011 Durham Region Amateur Radio Hamfest](#) - North Shore ARC & South Pickering ARC

Located at Pickering Recreation Complex, 1867 Valley Farm Rd. (Just one block east of Pickering Town Centre)

Sun., Jun. 5, 2011

[Central Ontario Hamfest & Fleamarket](#) - Guelph ARC & Kitchener-Waterloo ARC

Located at the Waterloo Regional Police Association Recreation Centre R.R. 2, 1128 Rife Rd. Beside Hwy 401, between exits 268 & 275
Location: 43.344939, -80.418376

Sat., Jun. 24, 2011 -

Sun., Jun 25, 2011

Field Day - Various Amateur Radio Clubs

Check with your local club for more details about what they are doing for Field Day.
L.A.R.C. Coordinator - Dave Lambert, VE3KGG

Sat., Jul. 9, 2011

[Ontario Hamfest](#) - Burlington Amateur Radio Club

Milton Agricultural Fairgrounds, Milton, Ontario

Sat., Jul. 23, 2011 -

Sun., Jul. 24, 2011

[Rona MS Bike Tour](#) - Multiple Sclerosis Society of Canada - Ontario Division

Grand Bend to London to Grand Bend
L.A.R.C. Coordination - Doug Elliott, VA3DAE

Sat., Aug. 20, 2011

[Hamfest 2011](#) - Brantford Amateur Radio Club

Held in the Burford Fairgrounds, 6 Park Ave., Burford, Ontario

If you have an upcoming event that you would like to have listed here, please forward the information to John Visser, VA3MSV at va3msv@hotmail.com and I'll add it to the list.

2010/2011 L.A.R.C. Executive Elections continued

**from the LONDON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
INCORPORATED - BY-LAW #1**

3. Board of Directors

3.1 The day-to-day affairs of the Corporation shall be arranged by a Board of Directors composed of 7 selected Directors, 1 non-voting Director appointed by the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (A.R.E.S.) and the Past President of the Corporation.

3.3 To be eligible to stand for election to the Board of Directors one must be a member in good standing for at least 30 days prior to the Annual Meeting at which members of the Board of Directors will be elected.

This year's Annual Meeting will be held May 13, 2010

3.4 A Nominating Committee shall be struck by the President at least 90 days prior to the Annual Meeting and it shall begin its activities immediately upon being appointed.

3.4.1 The Committee shall be composed of three members in good standing. The Past President shall be the Chairperson of the Committee.

3.5 The recommendations of the Nominating Committee shall be presented to the Board of Directors. The Board shall cause such report to be published in the L.A.R.C. Newsletter, which will be sent to all members in good standing as notice of the Annual Meeting. Such report shall also outline the procedure pertaining to additional nominations.

3.6 Additional nominations may be received by the Secretary up to 12 hours prior to the Annual Meeting if submitted by a member in good standing supported by the written agreement of 4 other members and the written acceptance of the nominee.

3.7 The election of the Board of Directors shall take place at the Annual Meeting of LARC. The Directors shall be elected by a simple majority vote of the members. The Directors shall take office on July 1 of that year.

Please contact the L.A.R.C. Secretary Ruth Dahl, VE3RBO, if you have any nominees or questions. You can reach me at ragann61@hotmail.com.

Special Event Station VY1T - Teslin Historical and Museum Society. Grand Opening of Aeradio Exhibit.

February 8, 2011

The VY1T Special Event Station will be on the air from June 29, 2011 to July 1, 2011 for the Grand Opening of Aeradio Exhibit at the Teslin Historical and Museum Society in Teslin, YT.

VY1EI, Eric, our resident contester, will use VY1T on June 29th from Whitehorse. Club Station VY1T will be on the air from Teslin Yukon, at the George Johnson Museum June 30th from early morning to late afternoon. VY1T will be on the air from Whitehorse on Canada Day as a club station. QSL will be available.

On June 30th please find us on 20 meters around 14.180 or so, also may try 14.140.

QSL via Hugh Henderson, VY1EEN at P.O. Box 33062, Whitehorse, YT Y1A 5Y5

More information to be found on the Yukon Amateur Radio Association website at <http://www.yara.ca/> or contact Ron McFadyen at mcfadyen@northwestel.net.

Ron McFadyen VY1RM - Past President - Yukon Amateur Radio Association

- - -

On June 30th 2011, The Teslin Historical and Museum Society, owner and operator of the George Johnston Museum, Mile 804 Alaska Highway, Teslin, will host a large gathering to celebrate the Grand Opening of its historical and (now) unique Aeradio Navigation Range Building (1941), with its interior exhibits.

The exhibits tell the story of Teslin from 1940-55 when its quiet and simple northern village life was overturned with the coming of RCAF Teslin base, the Aeradio Navigation Range, and the Alcan Highway. The story is told with transmitters, other

artefacts, text and photographs inside a rare 1941 radio range air navigation building.

We would be delighted if Yukon ham operators, former DOT telegraphers, amateur radio and radio telecommunication enthusiasts would attend the Opening. We feel that this is appropriate because DOT staff of RCAF Teslin not only handled hundreds of thousands, perhaps millions, of radio messages from 1940-55 but because they were avid amateur radio hams on their off duty hours. They controlled this aeradio building and were central to Teslin's wartime role.

The Society will welcome dignitaries and guests, such as yourselves, to Teslin for a formal ribbon-cutting, a sit-down traditional Dominion Day Silver Tea, to view other new exhibits inside the Museum, a display of ham radio (so popular in the 1940s) and other events recalling that era in Teslin. Guests will be invited to "make a day of it" and visit the local high-quality Yukon Wildlife Gallery and Teslin Tlingit Council's elegant Heritage Centre exhibits. This invitation is a preview to the formal invitation to be sent in Spring of 2011.

Should you wish to arrange overnight accommodation, please contact Yukon Motel (1-867-390-2443), Teslin Lake Motel (1-867-390-2521) or Dawson Peaks (1-867-390-2244) for a selection of rooms, cabins and meals. Teslin Lake offers superb trout, grayling, burbot and pike fishing. Charters and leisure boat rides are available. Excursions for small groups can be arranged by the Museum.

Teslin Historical & Museum Society
Box 146, Teslin, Yukon, Canada Y0A 1B0

USS Yorktown On Air As NWKJ First Time Call Has Been Heard In 41 Years

USS Yorktown back on the air!

-Fred Hambrecht W4JLE/NNN0AAG-
March 5, 2011

On May 14, 2011 the call sign NWKJ will be heard on the airwaves for the first time in forty one years. Yorktown will be activated by South Carolina Navy Marine Corp MARS members as well as operators from other states in Region Four for the annual military cross band test. Yorktown has been the

site for WA4USN on the amateur bands under the auspices of the Charleston Amateur Radio Society; however this will be the first use of Yorktown's military call since its decommissioning. It required that Yorktown be relisted in ACP 113 to allow the use of the "Fighting lady's" military call on military

frequencies.

The amateur frequencies being listened to will be announced by the operators on the frequencies listed below. QSL cards will be sent to all contacts.

Yorktown will be operating on the following frequencies:

USS Yorktown (CV-10) (14 May 1200Z - 15 May 0400Z)

Frequency	Emission	Amateur Band
4010.0 KHz	LSB	80M
7348.0 KHz	LSB	40M
14478.5 KHz	USB	20M
20994.0 KHz	USB	15M

POC: Fred Hambrecht NNN0GBS

ADDRESS: 129 Indian Trace Court
Gilbert, SC 29054

COMMERCIAL: 803-657-3602

The USS Yorktown (CV-10) was the tenth aircraft carrier to serve in the United States Navy. Under construction as Bon Homme Richard, this new Essex-class carrier was renamed Yorktown in honor of Yorktown (CV-5), sunk at the epic Battle of

Midway (June 1942). Built in an amazing 16 1/2 months at Newport News, Virginia, Yorktown was commissioned on April 15, 1943. Yorktown participated significantly in the Pacific Offensive that began in late 1943 and ended with the defeat of Japan in 1945. Yorktown received the Presidential Unit Citation and earned 11 battle stars for service in World War II. Much of the Academy Award-winning (1944) documentary "The Fighting Lady" was filmed aboard Yorktown.

In the 1950's, Yorktown was modified with the addition of an angled deck to better operate jet aircraft in her role as an attack carrier (CVA). In 1958, Yorktown was designated an anti-submarine aircraft carrier (CVS), and would later earn 5 battle stars for service off Vietnam (1965-1968). The ship also recovered the Apollo 8 astronauts and capsule (December 1968). Yorktown was decommissioned in 1970 and placed in reserve.

1975, Yorktown was towed from Bayonne, NJ to Charleston to become the centerpiece of Patriots Point Naval and Maritime Museum.

FCC Grants Controversial Conditional Waiver To Broadband Provider To Operate Adjacent To The GPS Band

March 4, 2011

A big bru-ha-ha is building over a new service grant adjacent to the GPS band.

The Air Transport Association and other aerospace companies say that a project to help make broadband wireless service available to all residents across the United States has the potential to interfere with the current users of the Global Positioning System. Also, it that it could jeopardize the cornerstone of the Federal Aviation Administration's \$40 billion next generation air navigation and transportation system.

At the heart of the controversy is what broadband suppliers are calling an innovative project by service provider LightSquared, Inc. to rebroadcast L-band satellite data and voice communications over a large terrestrial network. This using a new technology that would bring terrestrial broadband to 260 million people by 2015.

On January 26th LightSquared received a conditional waiver from the Federal Communications Commission to rebroadcast its satellite signals using high power transmitters on as many as 40,000 tower sites around the country.

LightSquared launched its SkyTerra-1 communications satellite in November 2010, and plans to launch a second satellite in 2012.

The FCC approved the request from LightSquared in less than three months, angering the nation's aerospace industry that had requested that the normal Notice of Proposed Rule Making process be followed. This, allow for more time to analyze the potential impacts to air navigation. Also in opposition is the GPS equipment supply industry with well known manufacturer Garmin leading those who do not want to see the LightSquared rushed into place at the expense of GPS users world-wide.

The issues involve the potential for out-of-band interference between LightSquared's operating spectrum of 1525 of 1559 MHz and the GPS band of 1559 to 1610 MHz. A study released by Garmin, whose GPS units are installed in more than 43,000 aircraft showed that aviation units would detect interference, or jamming, more than 12 Nautical Miles from a simulated LightSquared antenna site and suffer loss of its positional fix at 5 Nautical Miles. Garmin says its results were conservative,

and actual implementation of the LightSquared system could increase the distances.

Meantime, caught in the middle of this fight are the tens of millions of US citizens who use GPS to navigate from one place to another. All they want

is to get from point A to point B without being interfered with by anyone. (Various sources)

PC magazine's article here:

<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2380855,00.asp>

H.R. 607 - Danger Will Robinson! 70cm Band in grave danger!!

March 2, 2011

On February 10, 2011, Rep. Peter King (R-NY), Chairman of the House Homeland Security Committee, introduced H.R. 607, the "Broadband for First Responders Act of 2011," which has been referred to the House Energy and Commerce Committee (which handles telecommunications legislation). The bill addresses certain spectrum management issues including the creation and maintenance of a nationwide Public Safety broadband network.

As part of that network, the Bill provides for the allocation of the so-called "D-Block" of spectrum in the 700 MHz range for Public Safety use. HR 607 uniquely, provides for the reallocation of other spectrum for auction to commercial users, in order to offset the loss of revenue that would occur as the result of the allocation of the D-Block to Public Safety instead of commercial auction. H.R. 607 lists, among the bands to be reallocated for commercial auction within ten years of the passage of the Bill, the paired bands 420-440 MHz and 450-470 MHz.

The inclusion of most of the Amateur 70-cm spectrum as one of the replacement bands is a major problem. The 420-440 MHz band is not Public Safety spectrum and should not be included in any spectrum swap of Public Safety allocations.

While the ARRL and all Amateurs support the work of Public Safety and recognize their need for dedicated spectrum which would promote interoperability, the ARRL vigorously opposes HR 607 in its present form. HR 607 is a direct threat to our limited spectrum and the ARRL encourages

all amateurs to appropriately voice their opposition to this bill.

This bill directly threatens the 70cm band, and it's vital that VHF Men take the lead in defending our turf. Don't depend on the ARRL or others to do it for you...take a few minutes and write a letter, send an e-mail, fax, or call them on the phone. I will be writing letters and making phone calls too!

If you haven't already done so, please take a minute to write your Congressman to oppose H.R. 607, the Broadband for First Responder's Act. The ARRL makes it easy with a form-letter, and a lobbyist firm who will hand deliver the letters in batches to your representative. While I know this approach is effective, I think it makes a bigger impact to write a more personal letter or call their office!

Point out the role that amateur radio plays in SKYWARN, and our use of 440 Mhz repeaters to help protect citizens in his district.

"You can have my 70cm band when you pry the microphone from my cold dead hands!"

Please take a few moments to let your voice be heard. Here is the link:
<http://www.arrl.org/sample-letters>

73 - Mark A. Lacy - W5TXR

Schertz, TX

ARRL Asst. Technical Coordinator, STX

ARRL Certified Teacher / Instructor

ARRL Official Emergency Station

Member Texas RACES, ARES and Skywarn

Congressional Measure Could Lead To Loss Of 70cm Amateur Allocation

February 25, 2011

A new measure introduced into Congress could eventually lead to the reallocation of the amateur 70 centimeter band to other services. That's if the big business lobby can convince legislators that the security of the nation will not be compromised by such a change.

On February 10th, Representative Peter King of New York introduced HR 607, the Broadband for First Responders Act of 2011. King is the Chairman of the House Homeland Security Committee. HR 607 addresses certain spectrum management issues, including the creation and maintenance of a nationwide Public Safety broadband network. As part of that network, the bill provides for the allocation of the so-called "D-Block" of spectrum in the 700 MHz range for Public Safety use.

The D-Block consists of two, 5 megahertz-wide segments of spectrum from 758 to 763 and 788 to 793 MHz. These became available when the FCC ended analog television broadcasts in June 2009 and reallocated the 698 to 806 MHz band for Public Safety and commercial broadband.

At that time it was anticipated that the D-Block would be auctioned for commercial use. However there are several bills in Congress providing for the allocation of the D-Block for Public Safety use, and HR 607 is one of those.

But HR 607 uniquely provides for the reallocation of other spectrum for auction to commercial users, in order to offset the loss of revenue that would occur as the result of the allocation of the D-Block to Public Safety instead of commercial auction. HR 607 lists the paired bands of 420 to 440 MHz and 450 to 470 MHz among the bands to be reallocated

for commercial auction within 10 years of its passage.

His measure has been referred to the House Energy and Commerce Committee, which handles telecommunications legislation. There it is likely to see opposition from the United States military and others concerned with the nations overall security. This is because of the infrastructure that currently exists to protect our nations cities and shores.

One thing to keep in mind is that the spectrum in question is allocated as military as primary user and all others, including amateur radio as secondary users. As we in ham radio all know, the military recently spent 10's of millions if not billions of taxpayer dollars to upgrade its PAVE-PAWS long range radar system to a point where UHF ham repeaters and even some individual operations on both coasts were forced to reduce power or go completely QRT.

Ironically the cooperation between hams and the military in resolving issues associated with the PAVE-PAWS upgrade more than likely makes them one of amateur radios best allies in retaining the spectrum in question. That's because Representative King and his co-sponsors could face strong opposition from the U.S. military establishment which is almost certain to do all it can to derail such a spectrum reallocation.

In related news, the Society of Broadcast Engineers issued a legislative alert to its members regarding this measure. Its advisory notes that the spectrum targeted at 450 to 451 and 455 to 456 MHz is heavily used by commercial radio broadcasters for remote pick-ups, as well as by many other civilian and defense users. (ARRL, SBE, ARNewsline™)

ARRL Asks Hams To Write Congress To Defeat HR-607

February 25, 2011

The ARRL is asking that every radio club and individual ham operator in the United States to write to their congressional representative in opposition to HR-607 as it is currently written.

Because of security measures in place in Washington, the ARRL says that it will likely not do any good to mail them direct. Instead the League asks that you go to its website at www.arrl.org/sample-letters, fill in the sections of the attached letter for your own representative,

print it and then send it to Chwat & Co. They in turn will hand deliver it to the appropriate congressional office.

The address to send those letters to is John Chwat in care of Chwat & Co., 625 Slaters Lane, Suite 103, Alexandria, Virginia, 22314. Or you can fax it to 703-684-7594.

The bottom line here is that thousands of bills are introduced every Congressional season but very, very few ever make it to the President's desk. If

hams, broadcasters and the military all work together, there's a good chance that HR-607 will

never see a White House signature or even the political light of day.
(ARRL, ARNewsline, others)

Spectrum Management Bill Threatens Amateur Frequencies

February 17, 2011

On February 10, Representative Peter King (R-NY-3), Chairman of the House Homeland Security Committee, introduced [HR 607, the Broadband for First Responders Act of 2011](#). The bill has been referred to the House Energy and Commerce Committee, which handles telecommunications legislation. HR 607 addresses certain spectrum management issues, including the creation and maintenance of a nationwide Public Safety broadband network. As part of that network, the bill provides for the allocation of the so-called "D-Block" of spectrum in the 700 MHz range for Public Safety use.

The D-Block consists of two, 5-megahertz-wide segments of spectrum (758-763 and 788-793 MHz) that became available when the FCC ended analog television broadcasts in June 2009 and reallocated the 698-806 MHz band for Public Safety and commercial broadband. It was anticipated that the D-Block would be auctioned for commercial use. There are several bills in Congress providing for the allocation of the D-Block for Public Safety use, and HR 607 is one of those. But HR 607 uniquely provides for the reallocation of other spectrum for auction to commercial users, in order to offset the loss of revenue that would occur as the result of the allocation of the D-Block to Public Safety instead of commercial auction. HR 607 lists the paired bands of 420-440 MHz and 450-470 MHz among the bands to be reallocated for commercial auction within 10 years of its passage.

"Of serious concern to the ARRL is the inclusion of the 420-440 MHz amateur allocation in the list of frequencies to be cleared for auction," said ARRL Regulatory Information Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND. "The ARRL and the Amateur Radio community certainly support the work of public safety agencies and understand their desire for an interoperable network; however, the inclusion of most of the amateur 70 cm spectrum as one of the replacement bands is illogical and unacceptable. The 420-440 MHz band is not Public Safety spectrum and should never have been included in any spectrum swap of Public Safety allocations."

Saying that the ARRL Washington team has already begun meeting with key Congressional staff on

Capitol Hill, Henderson noted that Amateur Radio already shares the 70 cm band on a secondary basis with the governmental radiolocation services, such as the PAVE PAWS radar systems: "The 70 cm band is a critical and irreplaceable resource for Amateur Radio public service and emergency communications. The specification of the 420-440 MHz band in this legislation is ill-conceived. To be sure, the ARRL will vigorously oppose this legislation in its present form. It is, as evidenced by other legislation, completely unnecessary to the creation of a nationwide Public Safety broadband network or the use by Public Safety of the D-Block for that purpose. The role of the Amateur Service as a partner to Public Safety in the provision of public service and emergency communications necessitates the retention of full access to the entire 420-440 MHz band."

HR 607 is presently cosponsored by the Homeland Security Committee's Ranking Member, Representative Bennie Thompson (D-MS-2) as well as Representatives Shelley Berkley (D-NV-1), Yvette Clarke (D-NY-11), Billy Long (R-MO-7), Candice S. Miller (R-MI-10), Laura Richardson (D-CA-37), Mike Rogers (R-AL-3), and Michael Grimm (R-NY-13).

"As we continue to track the progress of HR 607, I urge ARRL members to watch for further information about the bill on the ARRL website," Henderson said. "When that additional information is released, it will include a request to contact your representative and express opposition to HR 607, as long as it includes a provision to auction off any Amateur Radio spectrum for commercial use. ARRL members may also sign up for the *ARRL Legislative Update Newsletter* and automatically receive information as it becomes available. Sign up by logging onto the ARRL website and select the 'Edit Your Profile' link located at the top of each page. Once on that page, select the 'Edit Email Subscriptions' tab and click on the box for *ARRL Legislative Update*." The *ARRL Legislative Update* is prepared on an "as needed" basis to those who have opted-in to receive it. A new edition addressing HR 607 will be forthcoming soon.

Radio Records: ROS Across The Atlantic On 500 KHz

February 25 2011

A new low frequency record between the United Kingdom and Canada has been set using a newly developed digital mode called ROS.

At 2134GMT on 13 February, Joe, VO1NA managed a full beacon decode from Graham, G0NBD on 502kHz using the ROS mode. It is believed this was the first live data mode decoded over the Atlantic on this band.

The signal to noise ranged from -23 to -27dB, giving a 100% decode of the test message. The transmission was sent using MF-7 with an estimated ERP of 1 watt from a 35ft top loaded vertical. The ROS mode did a good job of resolving

the signals despite deep and rapid QSB over the 3500km path.

At just over a year old the ROS data mode is relatively new and uses an adaptation of multiple frequency shift keying and forward error correction to help make successful contacts under very difficult band conditions.

The software for the ROS is completely free, but is still not legal for use by United States amateurs to transmit with. None the less US hams are free to listen in using it world-wide. More information can be found in cyberspace at rosmodem.wordpress.com (GB2RS)

New Amateur Radio Podcast Site

February 24, 2011

A new podcast website devoted to Amateur Radio www.hqaradio.com Audio and Video Podcast and

live streaming show on Sundays. All information available at website.

Tom Samacicio, KB4HQA

USA Recognizes Montenegro Under CEPT License

February 18, 2011

The FCC has added Montenegro as the latest nation that the United States recognizes in accord with the CEPT reciprocal agreement for radio amateurs. Under the compact, US citizens who hold an FCC-issued General, Advanced or Amateur Extra class Amateur Radio licenses may now operate in Montenegro, as well as the other countries covered by the European Conference of

Postal and Telecommunications Administrations This, subject to the regulations in force in the country visited, to operate in those countries. US amateurs with a General class license will be granted CEPT Novice Radio Amateur License privileges while those holding an Advanced or Amateur Extra class license will be granted CEPT Radio Amateur License privileges.

Cell Company Installs Tower On Private Front Lawn In Mount Sinai, NY

February 11 2011

According to news reports a cellular telephone provider apparently crossed the line when without permission it installed a tower and antenna on the front lawn of a private home in Mount Sinai, New York.

Town resident Lori DiMarco told news reporters that she and her family were horrified when they walked out of their house and found that a cell tower had been constructed under the cover of darkness on their front lawn.

Also appalled was Town Of Brookhaven Highway Superintendent John Rouse. He termed the action

by NextG Networks as being the height of corporate arrogance. Rouse said that if he has to get in a truck himself and take it down, it's coming down. And as a show of force, Rouse brought out a town bucket truck and threatened to rip down the mast and antenna if the company that installed it doesn't remove it within the next several days.

In a statement, NextG admitted they installed the tower without the proper permits. It said that it sincerely apologizes to the DiMarco family and a pledge to do it's best to ensure that this does not happen again. However in the same statement,

NextG also complained the town was taking too long to review its cell tower applications.

The company says it will take the tower down. As we go to air its unknown if the DiMarco family or the town are planning any legal action against NextG.

More on this bizarre story is on line at several websites including <http://www.wsbt.com/news/wpix-cell-fight,0,7995185.story> (Published news reports)

Ham Radio On The Bookshelf: We Be Big – A Book About Broadcasting And Ham Radio

February 11 2011

A new book from a couple of New York Times bestselling authors who are also nationally-syndicated broadcast personalities will offer readers unprecedented exposure to the hobby of amateur radio.

"We Be Big" from Thomas Nelson Publishers is the autobiography of Rick Burgess and Bill "Bubba" Bussey, whose morning radio show is heard in over fifty cities across America as well as on XM satellite radio. The team has previously published several books that landed near the top on the New York Times bestseller list. Their highly successful Rick and Bubba Show feature their down-home view on life in a spirited and fun presentation.

The amateur radio connection comes from several angles. First, Bill "Bubba" Bussey is a longtime active ham radio operator. He holds an Advanced class license and the call sign KJ4JJ. He cites amateur radio as one influence that led to a career in broadcast engineering, ownership, and on-the-

air success. Bussey talks in the book about how he came to the hobby at an early age and has been active ever since. He also often discusses the amateur radio on the show.

Additionally, "We Be Big" was co-written with the help of national-bestselling author Don Keith, who also happens to be an active amateur radio enthusiast. Keith holds an Amateur Extra class license and his call sign is N4KC, and has been licensed for almost fifty years.

Keith has over twenty books in print, both fiction and nonfiction, and writes on subjects such as college athletics, broadcasting, submarines, and World War II history. N4KC was also a long-time broadcaster, twice named Billboard Magazine's "Broadcast Personality of the Year."

Publication date for "We Be Big" is scheduled for March 22nd. Pre-orders are being accepted by many booksellers nationwide. (Press Release)

MEMBERSHIP INVITATION

-- Membership application and dues are currently requested.

Our term of membership runs from October 1 to September 30 of the following year. Each and every year it is increasingly more difficult to get Amateurs to commit to membership in their local club due to the alternate functions we are asked to fund.

*The **London Amateur Radio Club** has a long history of providing technical support, social support and repeater facilities. Public service efforts are currently provided by a club affiliation with Amateur Radio Emergency Services (**ARES**) and **Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC)**.*

Your Directors work tirelessly to provide meeting topics that are informative and entertaining, events that are timely (Christmas meeting, field day, bus trip) and participate in events that display and promote Amateur Radio in the community.

To be effective in its pursuits, the Club needs the support of the local Amateur fraternity through membership.

While we obtain financial support from our Annual Flea Market, we require membership support to fund such things as meeting hall rent, repeater sites rent and maintenance, web site fees, membership cards and liability insurance. For what it's worth, none of these things are getting any cheaper.

The cost of membership has not changed for a number of years and even in the face of increased cost, we would like to keep it that way.

With more than 1000 'hams' in the London area, it's inconceivable that less than 10% support a pastime about which most of us are passionate.

PLEASE, make a choice and do your part to keep the **London Amateur Radio Club** alive and well by purchasing your membership at our next meeting (or by mail – details on our web site). The cost is still only \$25.00 (single) or \$30.00 (family residing at the same address).



Office Use Only	
<input type="checkbox"/> Paid _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Cash <input type="checkbox"/> Chq	
Membership Card	
<input type="checkbox"/> Needed <input type="checkbox"/> Rec'd	
Sticker	
<input type="checkbox"/> Needed <input type="checkbox"/> Rec'd	

**LONDON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB INC.
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

PLEASE PRINT

SINGLE MEMBERSHIP: \$25.00 RENEWAL
 FAMILY MEMBERSHIP: \$30.00 NEW MEMBER

Member # 1	Last Name	First Name	Call Sign
	_____	_____	_____
	RAC Member?	RAC Member #	ARES Volunteer? Email Address
	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No _____

Member # 2	Last Name	First Name	Call Sign
	_____	_____	_____
	RAC Member?	RAC Member #	ARES Volunteer? Email Address
	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No _____

Member # 3	Last Name	First Name	Call Sign
	_____	_____	_____
	RAC Member?	RAC Member #	ARES Volunteer? Email Address
	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No _____

Member # 4	Last Name	First Name	Call Sign
	_____	_____	_____
	RAC Member?	RAC Member #	ARES Volunteer? Email Address
	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No _____

Address: _____

_____ Street/P.O. Box

_____ City/Town _____ Province _____ Postal Code

_____ Phone Number

Date: _____

*All information requested should be completed - this will be used for the club's membership database only.
All LARC membership information is held in strict confidence.*

Please make cheque payable to: **London Amateur Radio Club Inc.**

Mailing Address: London Amateur Radio Club
c/o Membership Director, VA3MSV
P.O. Box 82, Station B
London, Ontario, N6A 4V3